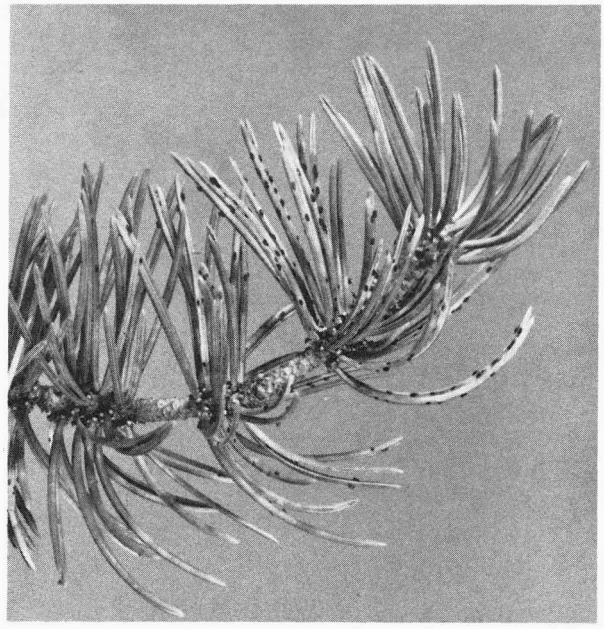
HOW TO CONTROL

Pinyon Needle Scale Insects

Pinyon needle scale is a serious pest of pinyon in the Southwest.

SYMPTOMS OF INFESTATION



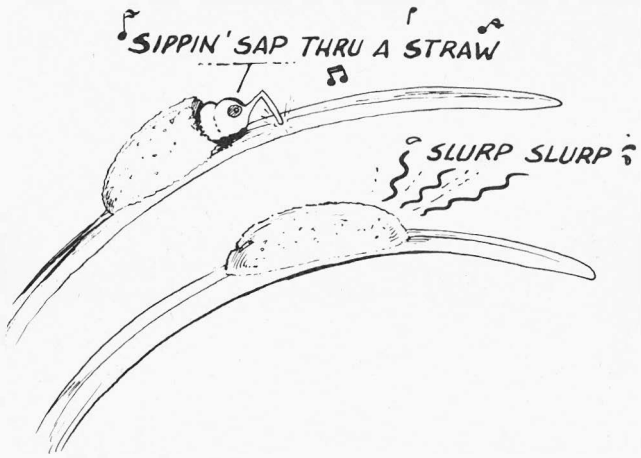
— yellowing or browning of foliage

— short, stubby needles

— premature needle drop

— black "peppered" dots (scales) on needles

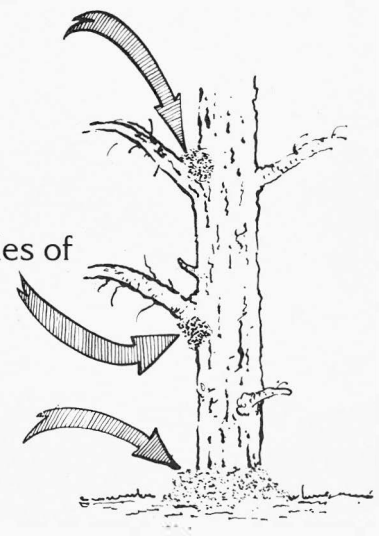
Scale insects damage trees by inserting their tube-like mouthparts into the needles and sucking the juices (sap) out.



IMPORTANT HABITS

In late April, female scale insects lay eggs in bark cracks and under bark flakes—

1. In crotches of large branches.
2. Along undersides of large branches.
3. Around bases of trees

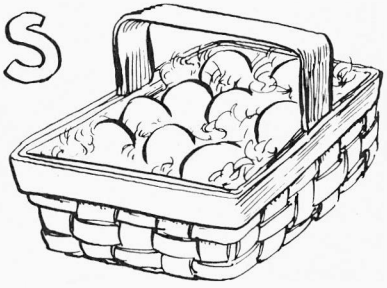


NOTE: Egg masses look like white "cottony" webbing.

Only during the egg stage are scale insects **highly concentrated.**

THUS

"ALL OUR EGGS ARE IN ONE BASKET"



The egg stage offers a good opportunity for control.

CONTROL... 3 EASY STEPS

STEP 1.
Wash eggs off branches and trunk with a **strong** stream of water.

Remember!

Thoroughly wash:

—tree trunk
—branch crotches
—undersides of branches

STEP 2.

Rake eggs, litter, and debris from around tree base and . . .

. . . out to drip line of tree crown.

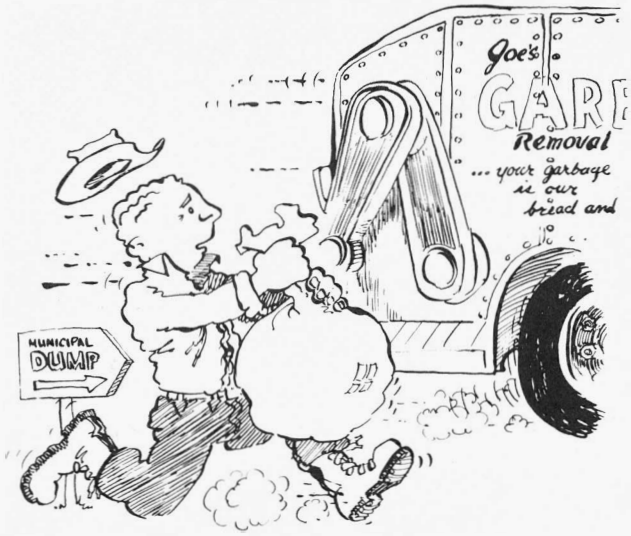
NOTE: Wet eggs and litter may be allowed to dry 1-2 days before raking.

BUT

They **must** be removed **before** the eggs hatch

STEP 3.

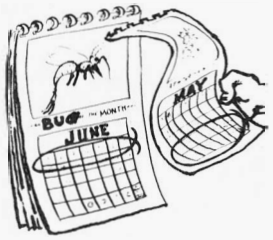
Bag eggs and litter and destroy.



IMPORTANT!

Proper **timing** of the washing treatment is **critical.**

Washing will be effective **only** during the **egg stage.**



In the Southwest, eggs can be washed from trees from about mid-May until the 1st week in June

If you wash too early — not all eggs will have been laid.

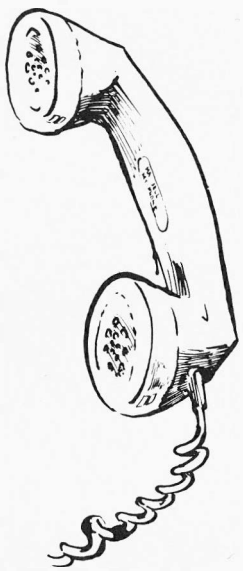
If you wash too late— eggs will have hatched and the young scale insects (crawlers) will have moved to the needles.

WHEN IN DOUBT—CALL:

Forest Insect and Disease Management
517 Gold Ave. SW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102
Phone 505-766-2440

Anthony H. Smith
New Mexico Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 6
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
Phone 505-766-3914

Office of Natural Resource Conservation,
State Land Department
1624 W. Adams
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Phone 602-271-4625



The washing and removal-of-eggs method is a SIMPLE, INEXPENSIVE, and EFFECTIVE control procedure.

It offers an alternative to the use of chemical pesticides.

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Harold W. Flake, Jr., Entomologist, S&PF, Forest Insect & Disease Management, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102.

Daniel T. Jennings, Research Entomologist, Rocky Mtn. Forest & Range Experiment Station, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87101.

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ED. NOTE: Technical material in this leaflet is found in: "A Cultural Control Method for Pinyon Needle Scale," by Harold W. Flake, Jr., and Daniel T. Jennings, USDA, Forest Service, Rky. Mt. For. and Range Exp. Sta. Res. Note RM-270, 4 p.

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